

Amendments to the specification

[0021] As shown in FIG. 2, another embodiment of the present invention is an ALD Cap 300 with electronic and other components that is attached to the outer surface of a headpiece 310 through a magnetic or other fixation means such as those mentioned above. In the embodiment of FIG. 2, ALD Cap 300 communicates 305 with a radio frequency (RF) receiver 320 of a direct connect audio input earhook 330 through wireless RF signals. All known means of wireless communication 305 are contemplated by the present invention including, but not limited to, RF, infra-red, magnetic, Bluetooth, and optical communications. Bluetooth is a radio technology capable of linking two or more devices in communication with each other over a relatively short distance of approximately 30 ~~feet~~, feet or 10 meters.

[0031] An embodiment of the present invention is shown in FIG. 6. FIG. 6 is a side view of an ALD Cap 700 configured to mechanically join with a headpiece 710. The headpiece 710 is in electrical communication with a BTE unit 740. BTE unit 740 may include a speech processor 745, an earhook 730, and a cell phone or telephone adapter 750. The phone adapter ~~may~~ 750 may include Bluetooth wireless communications technology 790 that transmits and receives wireless signals 792 to and from a cell phone or telephone 795. A system and method of Bluetooth assistive listening technology for cochlear implant speech processors is explained in "A Phone-Assistive Device Based on Bluetooth Technology for Cochlear Implant Users", Qian, et al., IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering, pp. 282-7, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0032] The Bluetooth technology 790 of the phone adapter 750 may also communicate wireless signals 791 with corresponding Bluetooth technology 705 in the ALD Cap 700. The phone adapter 750 may include a multi-function, or "answer/end", button 760 that

controls various functions of adapter 750 including initiating, answering, transferring, and ending telephone calls. The button 760 may also be used to turn the adapter 750 on and off and pair the adapter 750 to a particular phone 795 employing Bluetooth communications. A related Bluetooth headset not employing cochlear implant technology is described in the JABRA FreeSpeak™ BT200 Wireless Mobile Headset Users Manual, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and available from JABRA Corporation of 9171 Towne Centre Drive, Suite 500, San Diego, California 92122.